

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes new Figure 2A.

Attachment: New Sheet.

REMARKS

Claim 1 is amended. Claims 2, 4, 12, 14, 15, and 17 have been previously canceled. Upon entry of the amendment, claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 13, 16, and 18 are presented for reconsideration by the Examiner.

Amendment to Claim 1, Fully Supported By Application as Filed

Applicants note that the amendment to claim 1 is fully supported by the application as filed and not does constitute new matter. For example, the Examiner's attention is respectfully drawn to page 6, lines 33 through page 7, line 14.

Applicant has also added a new Figure 2A and relevant description thereof to show the amended feature of claim 1. The specification has been amended to describe the new Figure 2A and reference the breath-actuated mechanism 24 to the new Figure 2A. No new matter has been added and the drawings are fully supported by the original specification.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 1, 3, 5 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over United States Patent No. 5,476,093 to Lankinen.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite as follows (emphasis added):

1. An inhaler comprising:
a chamber having a mouthpiece;
a cyclone configured as a substantially cylindrical cavity
provided with a tangential inlet and an axial outlet arranged to eject

an aerosol of medicament into the chamber, said cylindrical cavity having a diameter between about 4 and 10 mm;

a drug dosing device arranged to provide a dose of powdered medicament entrained in an airflow to the cyclone; and

a piston pump for providing the airflow of repeatable volume and velocity to the drug dosing device, the piston pump comprising a plunger received in a pump cylinder and a spring so that air is drawn into the cylinder when the plunger is withdrawn therefrom against the bias of the spring; and

a breath-actuated mechanism which retains the plunger in a retracted position against the biasing force of the spring until the medicament is to be delivered.

The Lankinen reference fails to disclose, teach or suggest a breath-actuated mechanism which retains the plunger in a retracted position against the biasing force of the spring until the medicament is to be delivered.

Furthermore, as previously admitted by the Examiner, the Lankinen reference even fails to teach a piston pump comprising a plunger and a pump cylinder.

Consequently, there is also no basis whatsoever for asserting that the amended claim 1 as admitted would be obvious under 35 U.S. §103 over Lankinen. In this regard, the other references which the Examiner apparently cited as indicative of the general state of the art such as U.S. Patent Nos. 6,453,795, 6,029,662, 5,755,221 and 5,645,050 also do not disclose a breath-actuated mechanism which retains a plunger in a retracted position against the biasing force of the spring until the medicament is to be delivered.

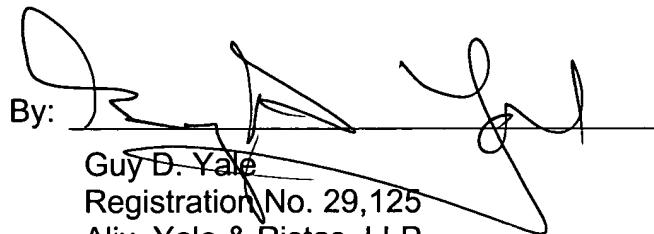
Claim 6, 16, and 18 which were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Lankinen in view of Patton et al U.S. Patent 5,458,135 depend directly or indirectly on claim 1 and are patentable for the reasons advanced for

claim 1. In addition, the Patton reference likewise fails to disclose, teach or suggest the breath-actuated mechanism which retains the plunger in a retracted position against the biasing force of the spring until the medicament is to be delivered as set forth in amended claim 1.

For the forgoing reasons all of the claims in the application as amended are in condition for allowance accordingly favorable reconsideration by the examiner is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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